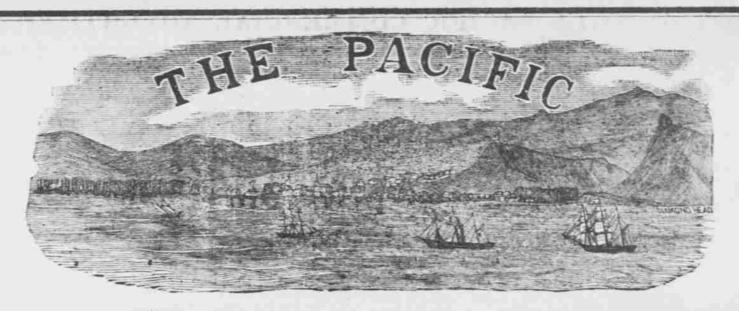
Commercial



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THE ART OF OILING SHOES.

A Bootblack Tells the Secret-Why Kerosene Oil-Barrels Are Painted Blue.

[Chicago News.] A one-armed bootblack having taken the contract to oil the shoes of a reporter, after the preliminary brushing began by rubbing the leather with a wet cloth. When asked what it was for he explained; "When I began this business," said the operator, pausing a mo-ment to cast an admiring glance at the high, aristocratic arch of the newsgatherer's instep, "I used to keep on rubbing the oil into the leather until a man told me to stop. I thought they'd know when they had enough and I wanted to give satisfaction. Some of my customers complained that the oil soaked through their boots and saturated their socks. I thought perhaps I had been putting on too much oil, but the same had been more careful. Finally an old shoemaker whom I knew came along and I asked him what I ought to do to save my trade. He told me never to oil a shoe until I had wet it first. The reason was that the water would penetrate the leather and, remaining there, keep the oil from soaking through. Besides the water would soften the leather and open it so that the oil would do the leather more good. My trade has prospered ever since. "I was oiling a man up one day and he asked the same question you did. When I explained the reason he said that was on the same principle as that of painting kerosene oil-barrels. I told him I thought they were painted blue just to look nice. He said it was to prevent the barrels from leaking. During a long voyage or a long journey by rail sometimes half a barrel of oil would leak through the pores of the wood and evaporate. So some sharp fellow began to study some way of prevent-ing such loss. He first painted the barrel blue on the outside and then filled it with water and allowed it to stand until it had soaked up all it would. Then the oil was put in. The water kept the oil from soaking in the wood, and the paint on the outside kept the water from coming out. He got a patent on his discovery, and now he sits in his office and draws his royalty of 1 cent on every barrel made to hold kerosene oil for shipment. He's got mighty soft thing on oil-barrels."

By this time the master of the art of oiling, having rubbed a quart bottle of neat's foot oil into the reporter's \$15 gait-ers, rested from his labors, and gracefully accepted the half-dollar which was dropped

Bricks in Fanciful Forms. [Washington Star.]

Col. John Hay is building a mansion on the corner of Sixteenth and H streets. The house when completed will be a notable one, as affording a fine illustration of what can be done with brick in the way of ornamentation. The architect has drawn designs for most of the brick which will be used, and these have been made from the designs. The bricks in the walls will be fourteen inches long, instead of the ordinary length, nine inches. The arches and ornamentation over the door will be composed of bricks made according to special designs. The pillars which are intro-duced will be composed of rounded brick. Large bricks, octagonal in shape, fanshaped, and of a variety of designs, will be set in the walls, giving a richness and variety which will be very effective. The side of the house on Sixteenth street will be made especially rich in ornamental work, yet at the same time the effect will be substantial and solid.

While some stone work will be used in the foundations, yet the real effectiveness in these particulars will be secured by the brickwork, and will demonstrate the fitness of the use of brick even in building where solidity instead of lightness is the design sought for.

Value and Cost of Food. [Chicago Tribune.]

Professor W. O. Atwater, in a recent meeting of agriculturists, pointed out that "a very large part of the expenses of liv-ing is the cost of food, and yet little is gen-erally known of its real worth for sus-taining the body. A pound of beef and a quart of milk each contains about the

"In beef we often pay so much for bone and gristle that the nutrients, particularly the protein, cost more than they are worth. Protein, as found in lean meat, eggs, beans and other albuminous foods, is the most costly food-essential we buy. It usually costs less in fish than in beef, less in wheat flour than in potatoes, and less in vegetable than in animal foods. Our bodies require flesh forming food to supply the waste of the muscles, and fat and starch to keep us warm and to keep lambs, either by fermenting it, reduced to the body supplied with its necessary store a kind of paste, with the milk of their

A Treasonable Document.

[Fliegende Blatter] Herr Kreutzhuber is a member of the of Socialists have posted a placard de-nouncing his majesty, "said Kreutzhuber to himself. Being determined to destroy Living High on a Paper of Needles.

[The Bivouac.] After the battle of Chickamauga, one of "our mess" found a needle-case which had belonged to some poor fellow, proba-bly among the killed. He did not place much value upon the contents, although there was a paper of No. 8 needles, several buttons, and a skein or two of thread, cut at each end and neatly braided, so that each thread could be smoothly drawn out. He put the whole thing in his

breast pocket, and thought no more about it. But one day, while out foraging for himself and his mess, he found himself near a house where money could have pro-cured a fine meal of fried chicken, corn pone and buttermilk, besides a small supply to carry back to camp. But Confederate soldiers' purses were generally as empty as their stomachs, and, in this instance, the lady of the house did not offer to give away her nice dinner. While the poor fellow was inhaling the enticing odor and feeling desperately hungry, a girl rode up to the gate on horseback, and bawled out to another girl inside the

"O, Cindy, I rid over to see if you couldn't lend me a needle. I broke the last one I had to-day, and pap says thar ain't nary 'nother to be bought in the country hereabouts."

Cindy declared she was in the same fix, and couldn't finish her new homespun dress for the same reason. The soldier just then had an idea. He retired to a little distance, pulled out his case, and stuck two needles in the front of his jacket, then went back and offered one of them, with his best bow to the girl on the horse. Right away the lady of the house offered to trade for the one remaining, and the result was a plentiful dinner for himself, and, in cons of a thread or two of silk, a full haversack and canteen. After this our mess was well supplied, and our forager began to look sleek and fat. The secret of his success did not leak out till long afterwards, when he astonished the boys by declaring that he "had been living like a fighting cock on a paper of needles and two skeins of silk."

"R. S. V. P."

[Mundus in The Rambler.] At a recent reception in New York a distinguished member of the bar told a story at the expense of a fellow advocate. who was invited to some entertainment, his invitation being accompanied with the usual request, "r. s. v. p." Never having before met the cabalistic initials, he inquired what they signified. "Why, don't you know?" was the reply. "It is a direction as to dress; roundabout, shirt, vest and pants." "That's lucky," said he "for I have everything but the roundhe, "for I have everything but the round-about." A distinguished railroad man, who stood by, capped this with another. On one occasion he invited all the em-ployes of the road to his house to listen to a little talk by Peter Cooper and others. Just at that time there had been some discussion as to a reduction of salaries, and the invited were suspicious, especially as they could not make out what what the "r. s. v. p." in the corner of the invita-tion meant. So they held a meeting, and after much cogitating one man said: "Here, boys, I know what that means reduction of salaries very profitable. They will get us there, give us something to eat and drink, and we will be roped in before we know it; don't let us go," and go they would not until the superintendent had been seen, and the matter ex-

He Was Too Reliable.

[Texas Siftings.] Mose Schaumberg has a pawnbroker establishment attached to his dry-goods emporium, which, like all concerns, is run for revenue only. One day Jim Payson applied to Mose for a loan on a fine diamond ring. Much to Payson's surprise, Mose refused to make any advance on the ring. After Payson had left, Gilhooly, who was present, asked Mose:
"Why didn't you let Payson have the
money on that ring. It is worth the loan he asked several times over."
"Pecause he vash too reliable."

"I don't understand you."
"Vell, you sees an unreliable man don't come back no more to redeem vat he has pledged, den I keeps dot forfeited pledge and I makes more den 200 per shent; but ven a man vash reliable, choost like dot Schim Payson, den he comes pack, maybe | 27 Merchant St., Honolulu. H.I. in a week, pays me mine money, and goes off mit his valuable broperty, and I makes choost so good as noddings. Ven you vants to make money dot bawnbroker pishness in, you must only deal mit peebles vat vash not reliable. Dose reliable peebles steals their broberty away from you ebery dime."

Arrested Civilization.

[Edinburg Review.] If we ask why the Chinese have remained in a strange immovable condition for so many centuries, the answer is clear, though it may seem at first a little inade-quate. The Chinese have no imagination. People without imagination never change. The Chinese are clever, cultivated, skill-ful craftsmen, admirable imitators, but not of equal value practically because the quality of the nutrients is not alike. We are all largely governed by taste. The rich may be so guided, but the poor must economize. gamble away a few cash now and then with the dice or dominoes, or over the glorious combats of 'two valiant crickets. They are a practical folk, and so long as things are pretty comfortable they do not see the use of vain aspirations.

Lamb Wine.

[Cincinnati Enquirer.] The Mantchoos, who conquered China, make a kind of drink from the flesh of domestic animals, or bruising it to a pulpy substanc with rice. When matured it is put into jars and drawn off as needed Gerbillon says that the rich Mongols leave mutton to ferment with their sour milk before they distill it. This is unsecret police. Being on his way home doubtedly the spirit said to be made from after midnight he observes on the street the flesh of the sheep by the Tartars in lamp a placard. "Ha! these scoundrels | China, of which the emperors were so | HAWAHAN INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO.

A soup made of black beans and sherry the placard he painfully climbs up the lamp-post, and, having secured the treasonable document, he reads "Fresh Paint."

A soup made of black beans and sherry is one of the latest epicurean novelties. It is said to be of Norwegian origin. Business Cards.

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ttorney and Counsellor at Law. Agent to Take Acknowledgments to Instruments for the Island of Oahu, No. 9 Kaahumanu Street, Honolulu, H. I. 108-mr31

M. THOMPSON,

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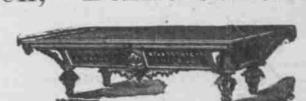
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